





## Intimations.

A. S. WATSON &amp; CO., LTD.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

Established A.D. 1841.

## WATSON'S PRICKLY HEAT LOTION

Is the safest and best cure for Prickly Heat, it affords instant relief, and will be found useful in allaying all irritation of the skin whether arising from acidity or caused by the bites and stings of insects. It is also a useful Toilet Article for the complexion.

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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

Hongkong, 11th July, 1888.

## The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 1888.

The success of Senhor Hortia's candidature over his competitor, Senhor AMARAL, at the elections held on Sunday in Macao will be easily understood if one takes into consideration two vital facts which militated in favor of the victorious candidate—his avowed connection with the clerical party in the Holy City, and the immeasurable influence, that party possesses, for good or for evil, in the "Gem of the Orient Earth." Fighting the clergy has ever been a hard and a dangerous venture, for the robed adversaries are known to excel in the subtle tactics of evading ghost-like, all the blows aimed at them, while in the same fondish, invisible manner, they deal fatal knocks on their opponents. In the neighbouring colonial colony, like everywhere else, the clerical fraternity nourish a conviction of their inviolability, and, given the opportunity, they are apt to strike first and show themselves veritable giants in the arena of political combat. He whom they befriend may be sure of success, while he who is averse to them begins as a rule, a prey to their far-reaching spirit of vindictiveness.

Why, we often exposed the mal-administration and general rottenness of the public affairs of Macao; yet there is no evil that more fatally corrodes the inner life of that apparently placid colony than the excessive influence the priesthood exercises over the consciences and the minds of its indifferently educated inhabitants. That the majority of the Portuguese residents of Macao are under a direct priestly tutelage, there can be no doubt, considering the readiness with which they obey all the summonses issuing from the tetrarchical authorities who rule over them. Their modes of thought, the inmost feelings of their hearts are to a great extent known and controlled by their so-called spiritual directors, who scruple not to teach wives and daughters to keep a zone of secrecy and reserve in their relations with their husbands or parents; secret family ties are often torn asunder or arbitrarily blended in the confessional box—the greatest dissolvent of home and family ever invented by all the powers of cunning and mischief man is capable of. And this is exactly the priest-ridden constituency which has elected their favorite champion to represent them and to look after their interests in the Lisbon parliament.

The Macao electors in that erratic and unintelligible manner of behaviour, which is so characteristic of them, have often thrown their votes for candidates who never deserved to be elevated to the post of colonial deputies; but we have never heard of their being so blindly driven by the priesthood as to sacrifice the common weal of their country to the whims of their task-masters. Senhor HORTA may be very willing and very able to acquit himself of his duties towards the colony which elected him; but the fact of his being a favourite with the clergy militates strongly against him. The degradation of Macao is greatly the work of the local clergy; they impersonate ideas and modes of thought, they teach doctrines and indulge in practices which belong to a semi-barbaric age and which are in direct contravention to the tendencies and the requirements of the epoch we live in. If Macao is so indolent, so tradeless, so sunk in prejudice and ignorance, it is precisely because an indolent, a bell-ringing, an incense-burning and a psalmodying clergy have, since the foundation of the colony, been at the head of all the local affairs. If instead of bales of merchandise, banks, warehouses, or ships, one finds in Macao a number of temples and a multitude of devotees of both sexes quietly tripping to their morn, noon and even, it is precisely because the colony is placed under the incubus of the gown, the cassock and the breviary. While all around that centennial settlement an immense activity prevails, the sullenness of

poverty and dejection, broken by the still more lugubrious toll of the church-bell is the only feature of the Holy City.

Is it not high time that a colony so helplessly lost in the meshes of obscurantism, should shake itself free from the tyranny of the intellect, take to a healthy line of activity and get itself represented in the metropolitan parliament by an independent, a courageous, and a free deputy? We have often expressed the wish that if a deputy could in any way save Macao from its dejected state, the colony should show its wisdom in electing a truly worthy representative. But the facts, which occurred at the recent election are more than sufficient to convince us once more that our wishes are too far wide of the mark, for the neighbouring colony is still what it has been for ages—a hot-bed of clericalism accompanied by its inseparable concomitants—indolence, superstition, and hopeless decay.

## GRAMMARS.

## ANOTHER TYPHOON.

The following telegram received yesterday at 6.30 p.m. from Bolinao has been kindly forwarded to us by the Spanish Consul at this port:—  
"Another typhoon is raging to the N.N.E. of Luzon, and presents so far the same characteristics as the previous one."

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

We are informed by the agents (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.) that the "Glen" liner *Glenavon*, from London, left Singapore yesterday morning for this port.

The King of Sweden and Norway left England for Berlin on the 14th ult., travelling incognito, as Queen Victoria. The Queen of Sweden left England on the 12th inst. for Copenhagen. Her Majesty's proceeds via Calais and Hamburg.

MISS BEATRICE CLUGSTON, who was one of the most prominent and active philanthropists in Scotland, died suddenly at the commencement of June. She founded a Convalescent Home and a Home for Incurables, and, by means of bequests, she raised £51,000 for those institutions and others in which she took an interest.

*Truth* understands that Lord Dufferin will not stop at Rome more than six months, as it is practically settled that next spring he is to go to Constantinople, in place of Sir William White, who will succeed Sir Augustus Paget at Vienna. It is probable that Lord Vivian will then be transferred from Brussels to Rome.

THE Duc d'Orleans, the eldest son of the Comte de Paris, has joined the fourth battalion of the King's Royal Rifles for the purpose of completing his military education. This highly objectionable arrangement, says *Truth*, has been made by "exalted personages" in opposition to Lord Salisbury, and with a reckless disregard of the susceptibilities of the French Government and people which cannot be too severely censured.

A SHEEP cake weighing 210 taels, in the shape of a shell, measuring 7 in. by 8 in. in its thickest part, and valued at \$391 in weight, is on view at Messrs. Geo. Falconer & Co., Queen's Road. This specimen was brought this morning from the Tanchow mines, where it was smelted by Chinese at a native furnace out of 300 cetties of specially selected dressed ore. We are informed by the Manager of the Mines, Mr. Ho Amci, that several other specimens may be seen at his office.

THE panic mongers have had it all their own way during the Whitsuntide holidays. The *Daily Telegraph* led the way, and was followed by the *Globe*, who treated us to three panic articles, entitled "England's Agony," in big letters—all based on the assumption that the French, after defeating our Channel Fleet off Portland, could land 50,000 men at Brighton without our having any inkling of it until the landing was accomplished. Lord George Hamilton has brushed away all this nonsense, by showing that the French have not the ships ready to perform such an enterprise, that they have no port in the Channel where such an embarkation could take place, that it would take them many weeks to collect the transports, that we should have full notice of such a preparation, and that wherever they attempted to land they would find themselves opposed by 50,000 riflemen at least.

The *Globe* presumes they could land a force of 50,000 men with horses at Brighton in a few hours. Now, the water at Brighton is shallow, large ships must lie two miles off, all the landing must be done in small boats or barges towed over the Channel. This latter supposes a dead calm, and the first south-westerly breeze, the prevailing wind at Brighton, would knock the whole project on the head. Brighton would have plenty of notice, and the whole of the sea front would be lined with riflemen in extended order lying down, and pouring a continuous stream of bullets on every boat as it approached the shore. No amount of firing from big ship guns two or three miles away would cause these riflemen to budge, and even this firing must stop so soon as the boats with French troops and horses approached the shore, and as they landed in twos and threes they would be attacked with the bayonet. In the meantime the three links of railway to Brighton would be pouring in reinforcements from Alderhot, Portsmouth, and London, and poor Johnnie Crapaud would have a hot time of it. It is not invasion that we have to fear, but it is having our supplies cut off by sea that is our great danger. We are deprived of half of our power on the ocean by the Declaration of Paris. It would cost us nothing to denounce it, yet would add more to our power at sea than the expenditure of twenty-one millions sterling, which Admiral Hornby calls for to provide 140 armed cruisers.

MESSRS. Adamson, Bell & Co. inform us that the steamship *Duke of Westminster* left Singapore yesterday for this port, and may be expected on the 23rd inst.

SEVERAL views of the Villa Palmieri and its grounds have been painted for the Queen by Signor Corradini, of Florence, and they are to be hung at Osborne.

DISPITE the strong rival attraction with which the Circus has had to compete, and the disadvantages of location, the audiences are still large and appreciative. Last night a crowd of novelties were introduced, including juggling on the running globes, character sketches on horseback, &c. "The two Othellos" by Messrs. Love and Harland, was again an unqualified success, and as it will probably be repeated to night for the last time anyone desiring an amusing half hour should go down to Bowrington, if only to hear that sketch.

SAYS the *L. and C. Express*:—The Admiralty have decided that the mobilisation of the fleet shall take place between the 20th and 24th of June, the commanders of marine divisions having been ordered to have such marines as have been taken off for service with the fleet ready by that date. No orders have been sent to the dockyards, but it is understood in the navy that the 23rd would be the date selected for the commissioning of the ships to take part in the manoeuvres. Arrangements are being made in view of orders being received to this effect.

*Truth* is rather in favour of hanging. It is quite as humane, and infinitely more efficacious, than killing a criminal by electric shocks, as the New Yorkers have decided to do in future. The only tolerable argument in favour of capital punishment is its deterrent effect, and for this purpose there is something about the very name of the gallows which the most powerful electric battery will never be able to compete with. As for considerations of humanity, if Mr. Berry does his work properly, our murderers die by dislocation of the cervical vertebrae—a tolerably speedy process. But even strangulation is believed to be rather an agreeable process than otherwise. Annihilation by electricity may be soon over, but it must be rather nasty while it lasts.

OPINIONS may differ, says *Truth*, as to the precise position which Sir Frederick Leighton occupies in the art world; but there can be no doubt that he discharges the society functions of his office as P.R.A. in an extremely graceful and courteous manner. His short but eloquent speech at the Italian Exhibition, on the 13th ult., was admirable alike in form and taste, and quite a model of what such an oration ought to be. Among the assembled journalists and other notabilities were Sir Henry Layard, Mr. Alma Tadema, Mr. Andrew Lang, Mr. Lucy, Mr. Manville Fenn, and Mr. Oscar Wilde, who was so much impressed by the President's eloquence, that he was moved to regret that Sir Frederick ever wasted his time in painting pictures at all. The speech of Commendatore Bonghi was delivered in excellent English, with a strong foreign accent; but there was so much loud talking among the guests, that it was almost inaudible to the majority of the company.

ANOTHER fine vessel of the new class of swift protected cruisers, designed by Mr. White, the Director of the Naval Architecture, was launched on the 9th ult., at Chatham, Dock-yard. One, the *Magdalen*, was launched at Glasgow last month, the *Medusa* is in progress at Chatham, the *Malpensa* is on the stocks at Portsmouth, and the *Marathon* at Glasgow. The *Medea* is a twin-screw steel vessel, unarmoured, carrying six 6 in. breechloading guns placed in sponsons built out from the sides of the hull, one on each side at each end, and one on each side amidships. The protection is 3 in. deck plating of the usual arched type; and the engines developing 9,000 indicated horse-power will give the vessel the fine speed of twenty knots an hour. Besides the above armament she will carry ten quick-firing guns protected by shields. The conning tower is the only armoured portion. In length the *Medea* is 265 ft. between the perpendiculars, 41 ft. extreme breadth, and 16 ft. 6 in. depth of hull. Her displacement is 2,800 tons. Her draught will be 15 ft. 3 in. forward and 17 ft. 9 in. aft. Her coal capacity is 400 tons, equal to steaming 8,000 knots. She was commenced on April 5 last year, having thus occupied only fourteen months in construction. The ceremony of christening was performed by Miss Kelly, the daughter of the Admiral Superintendent.—*L. & C. Express*.

TO-DAY six Chinamen of the coolie class were charged before Mr. Wodehouse with acting as passage brokers without a license on the 14th inst. P.C. Pang On, said the defendants were known to him as unlicensed passage brokers and in getting together a number of passengers for the S.S. *Wingtang* on the 14th inst. The 3rd and 5th defendants he found on board the *Wingtang*, on that day, without the permission of the Captain; they had got a lot of men on board as passengers. A shoe-maker named Lo Sam said the defendants took him from their shop and put him on board the steamer with the assurance that they would get him a ticket, but they never did—he was not taken before the Emigration officer. The first defendant explained to the court that he was a runner belonging to the Wantal boarding house. His duty was to go on board ship with passengers and hand them over to a man who is a *foh* of the ship. He had taken some men on board and was just going away when the police arrested him. He knew nothing about any passage tickets. The constable on being recalled said he knew the prisoner to be a man who occasionally went to Singapore in charge of coolies. The boarding houses here had corresponding shops in Singapore, and often the passage money was paid in Singapore unless it was possible to smuggle the passengers on board free. Mr. Wodehouse discharged the 1st defendant, whereupon Insp. Craddock abandoned the prosecution against the remaining prisoners.

THE Royal library at Monaco, which is one of the finest in the world, has been overhauled during the last three years, and it is found to contain upwards of 750,000 volumes and 24,000 manuscripts.

PAPER-CHASES have become a very fashionable amusement at Brussels. There was one recently in the Forest of Soignes, in which the Queen, the Comtesse de Flandre, the Duc d'Aumale, and Prince Naudouin took a prominent part.

A TELEGRAM from Madrid announces the arrival there on the 12th ult., of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh. A guard of honour was drawn up to receive the Royal party, who drove to the palace, where apartments were prepared for them.

IN the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice, on the 11th June, before Justices Field and Wills, the action which was brought by Sir John Pope Hennessy, Governor of Mauritius, against *The Times* newspaper, to recover damages for alleged libel, again came before the Court upon a motion by the defendant for inspection of the copies of certain reports and other documents in plaintiff's possession. The words complained of were to the effect that the plaintiff had edited certain addresses delivered in the Colonial Assembly, of which it was his duty to send reports to the Colonial Secretary, and the defendant pleaded a justification. The plaintiff declined to allow inspection of the copies of the reports and other documents which were in his possession as Governor of Mauritius, on the ground that it would be prejudicial to the public service to do so, and he had been directed by the Colonial Secretary not to produce them. Their lordships held that the plaintiff was entitled to refuse to disclose these documents, and, therefore, the application must be dismissed with costs.—Application refused accordingly.—*L. & C. Express*.

WE call the following from the *L. & C. Express*:—In the House of Commons, on the 8th ult., Mr. Henniker Heaton asked the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies whether Her Majesty's Government were in a position to give any further information respecting the Chinese question. Baron H. de Worms replied that the conference of the colonial Governments on this subject was to meet, as arranged, on the 12th, and Her Majesty's Government had communicated fully with the colonial Governments on the points which appear to them, specially deserving of consideration, with a view to the effective restriction of Chinese immigration, in the manner most conducive to the general interest of the Australasian colonies and the Empire at large. Until the conference has deliberated Her Majesty's Government would necessarily not be in a position to make any further statement of policy.—On the 11th Mr. Schiavann asked the Under-Secretary of State for India whether it was the intention of the Indian Government to carry out with regard to Tibet the policy of aggression advocated by various Anglo-Indian journals under the name of the "forward" policy. Sir J. Gorst replied that the Government of India had no intention of pursuing a policy of aggression towards Tibet.—On the motion of Sir G. Bladen-Powell, an address was agreed to for a return giving clauses in treaties or other binding agreements at present in force between China and the United Kingdom relating to the treatment of immigrants from either State into the territories of the other.

WE take the following from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Freight Market Report, under date Shanghai, 13th July, 1888:—We have no alteration to notice in the position of the freight market since the date of our last advices, 29th June. Steam tonnage is still enquired about for the coal carrying trade from Nagasaki to this at slightly advanced rates. The British barque *Kelvedale*, 1,191 tons register, will proceed to the Philippines in ballast, having been settled at home to load for a port in the Atlantic States. The steamship *Glenartney*, 1,400 tons register, sailed 29th ultimo, and the steamship *Glenfruin*, 1,936 tons register, on the 7th instant, both for the Philippines to land for United Kingdom. For London, *via* usual ports of call and Suez Canal:—The P. & O. steamer *Khalidi* will leave on the 24th instant, her rate is 40s. per ton. Holt's steamship *Ajax* is circulated for despatch on the 14th instant and will be followed by same Company's steamer *Archives* on the 21st instant; rate for all cargo is 37s. 6d. per ton. For New York, *via* usual ports of call and Suez Canal:—The Ben Line steamship *Benlauer* is due from Japan to-day with a large portion of her cargo on board and will receive prompt despatch, rate for Tea 60s. and General Cargo 50s. per 40 cubic feet. The Glen steamship *Glenagles* will follow her on the berth. *Vid Cape*:—The ship *C. C. Chapman* for despatch *via* Hongkong is still loading at 22s. 6d. per 40 cubic feet. From Hankow for London *via* Suez Canal:—Freight on Tea on through Bills of Lading by the P. & O. and Holt's Lines is 40s. per 40 cubic feet. For Odessa from Hankow:—The Russian steamer *Peterburg* is loading. Departures for London *via* Foochow and Suez Canal:—Holt's s.s. *Palinurus* and Glen Line s.s. *Glencoe* on the 11th instant; Holt's steamer *Orestes* on the 7th instant, and Mutual Line steamer *Ching Wo* on the 11th instant. Departure for New York *via* Foochow, Amoy and Suez Canal:—Shire Line steamer *Monmouthshire* on the 11th instant. Quotations are:—Newchwang to Swatow, 20 Mex. cents per picul, steam, small enquiry. Chemo to Swatow, 13 Mex. cents per picul, small demand. Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1.55 per ton of Coal net, for steamers demand; \$1.30 ex ship, for sailing vessels. Settlements during the fortnight have been:—Nansing, British steamer, 803 tons register, Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1.20 per trip in full, despatch, 2 trips. *Felling*, British steamer, 753 tons register, Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1.55 per ton coal, despatch. *Primus*, Russian ship, 1,148 tons register, hence to Manila, \$1.250 in full, 12 day days. *Ribston*, British barque, 397 tons register, Foochow to Tientsin, \$1.900 in full, 15 day days. Disengaged vessel in Port:—*Saluma* British barque, 364 tons register.

THE late Lord Wolverton's steam-yacht *Palatine* will, says a London exchange, probably be purchased by the Queen, who contemplates presenting her to Prince Henry of Battenberg. The *Palatine*, which is one of the finest and most comfortable yachts afloat, was built by the late Lord Wilton, who owned her for many years.

SAYS *Truth*:—Several of the oldest and most respectable of the London clubs are languishing for want both of funds and of members. Of course, this state of things arises from the competition of the numerous rival establishments, which seem to spring up almost daily, and from the failure of the older institutions to offer counter attractions. The truth is that the old clubs, though eminently respectable, are desperately dull, and the modern young man prefers amusement to respectability—especially when the latter is coupled with a good chance of his being "pilled," in addition to many vexatious restrictions on the entertainment of guests.

A CARPENTER named Leung Fuk was to-day charged before Mr. Sercombe-Smith with maliciously administering poison to five other carpenters on the 17th inst. P.C. Chi Fung said all the complainants were at present under medical treatment at the Civil Hospital. Last evening he saw a crowd round a house at No. 32, Praya East. On going inside he found four people, the complainants, lying down and another man leaning against a boat chock. Defendant was also sitting down near them. Four of the complainants were insensible, but the fifth told witness he had got giddy after eating something. This man then addressed defendant, saying, "you made us ill, you must give us something to make us better." As the men appeared to be very ill they were at once sent away to the Hospital. The prisoner was remanded to Tuesday next.

LONDON papers inform us that the Oaks, near Epsom, formerly the seat of the Earls of Derby, was to be sold at the end of June. It is a fine, castellated, red brick house, surrounded by a richly timbered park, and commands charming views. Horace Walpole wrote in June, 1774, "There is a fête champêtre to-morrow at Lord Derby's villa in Surrey, which will cost £5,000. Everybody is to go in masquerade, but not in mask. He has bought all the orange trees round London and the haycocks are to be made of straw-coloured satin." This entertainment was to celebrate the wedding of Lord Stanley with Lady Betty Hamilton, who was known as the "Maid of the Oaks," from General Burgoyne's masque, which Garrick produced at Drury Lane. During the reign of William IV., the Oaks was the favourite country residence of Lord Stanley, afterwards Prime Minister, and Mr. Charles Grey, General Anson, and half the White Cabinet stayed there for Epsom races.

THIS morning four Chinese boarding-house runners appeared before Mr. Sercombe-Smith charged with assaulting a shop coolie, by gagging him, tying his hands behind his back, detaining him at No. 10 Wing Sing Street, and threatening to send him to a foreign country, on the 17th inst. Complainant said he came from Haiphong on the 13th inst. in charge of the 3rd defendant, in order to look for a brother. He came in a junk, and paid his own expenses. The 3rd defendant took him to a house where he saw the other prisoners, the 1st defendant being the master and giving all the orders. He was taken upstairs and locked up, a guard being kept over him. The 3rd defendant said that by and by he would take him to see his brother. On the 17th at 9 a.m. defendant came upstairs and proposed that witness should go to Singapore, or, refusing which he was beaten and kicked, then tied with his hands behind him and a gag put into his mouth, in which condition he was left till 4 p.m. when, on the prisoners going downstairs to dinner and leaving him unwatched he succeeded in getting his hands free and escaping into the street. Corroborative evidence being given to show that the other men participated in the assault, or were passive spectators or accomplices, the prisoners were remanded till to-morrow at 2.30 p.m. Bail was taken in two sureties of \$300 each.

## SUPREME COURT.

## IN CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

(Before the Hon. J. Russell, Acting Chief Justice).

These Sessions were opened this morning, there being eleven prisoners for trial. The jurors were Messrs. E. R. Hope, G. T. Rivera, L. L. Lopes, C. P. C. Klingeman, C. L. Leavy, J. Kay and J. R. Reice.

## FELONY.

Lam Abu, against whom sixteen previous convictions were recorded, was indicted for breaking into a house in Yee Wo Street on the 20th ult., and stealing eight dollars worth of clothes. He was found guilty.

## FORGERY BY A CHINESE CLERK.

Leung Awan was indicted with forging and uttering a cheque for \$4,500. The Attorney-General prosecuted.—On the 2nd July prisoner went to the Sun Lung Bank and presented a cheque on the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for \$4,500, endorsed. He represented that he came from the Kwong Yu Wo, and had been sent to ask for \$1,500 on it, in order that his employer could lend a customer \$3,000. The money was lent, and after he had had a smoke he left; when he had gone the accountant who lent the money became suspicious, and sent the cheque to the Bank for verification. It was there found that no cheque of that number—45499—had been issued, and that the first or last figure had been cleverly added. It was also afterwards found that the prisoner had no connection with the Kwong Yu Wo, that no one bearing the name on the back of the cheque was known, and that the shop had

been imitated. Prisoner was afterwards arrested at the Paly Farm at Pokfulam, where he had taken refuge with a friend, after telling him a long "fair tale" to explain his reason for hiding.—In defence prisoner alleged that he changed the cheque "to oblige a friend," and received \$300 for doing so. He was found guilty.—*Is* Lordship directed that the prisoner should be asked what had become of the \$1,100 which was still missing, adding that compliance would probably lighten the sentence.—Sentence was deferred.

## LARCENY ON BOARD SHIP.

Chan Ayow, a coolie, was charged with stealing \$214, on the steamer *Fishoon* on the 23rd June. Prisoner pleaded guilty saying that he was told to do so by a Portuguese. Previous convictions were proved.

## EMPLOYMENT.

Yan Tan Chee was indicted for embezzling two sums of \$16 and \$87, the property of his employer, Lee Hing Quian, in March and May. The Attorney-General prosecuted.—Prisoner, who is a stationer in Wellington Street, employed the two above mentioned accounts, and did not hand them over.—Prisoner stated that he sent some of the money home, and told the prosecutor to debit him with it. The rest he lost at gambling. He was found guilty.

## HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

Chu Ah Tsun, a coolie, was charged with highway robbery at Kowloon on the 12th June. The Attorney-General prosecuted.—On the morning on that date he and another man, each armed with a revolver, stopped a hawker and took his goods, worth about \$9. Prisoner was afterwards found in a village with some of the property in his possession.—He was found guilty.

## BURGLARY.

Tam A Quong and Chan A Yow, who appeared in Gaoi ch-thing, were indicted for breaking and entering a Chinese house in Hollywood Road on the 22nd June. The Attorney-General prosecuted. In the absence of the prosecutor, a rent collector, his room was broken into, and some clothes, a box, an umbrella, and various other articles stolen. Later in the day the prisoners offered part of them in pledge at a pawnbroker's at different times. Inspector Quincey arrested them, and found a bundle of pawn-tickets relating to stolen property in the room. The first prisoner admitted his guilt, but asserted that his companion in the dock was innocent. Both were found guilty.

## THINGS NOT AT ALL COMICAL.

## INTERESTING TO HONGKONGITES.

It isn't at all comical to read some of the dissertations on the Cholera epidemic here in certain of the local papers just now. Of course a good many people will laugh at the idea of there being any such thing as Cholera in Hongkong. And there is a good deal of argument in favour of their theory; for not the least argument is—that the present writer has been fully three weeks in Hongkong, and is not dead with it yet! But this does not at all mean that he has not seen and felt some of the peculiarities of the Hongkong fever, and seen, as well as felt, the effects of what causes the present stagnation in matters mercantile and social. But—

It isn't at all comical to read that there never has been such a thing as Cholera in the colony this year, in presence of the two-inch (not the four-inch ones of Confucius) coffin one has to meet at almost every hour of the day. I made a great error when I said that, for the day of the cholera, and the ear-splitting shrieks from both the crying women and the musicians—josses of all kinds and degrees help not to get rid of both—will not allow anyone a rest of ten minutes to compose his thoughts. The residents, as well as the Government Authorities, seem nightly complainant in respect to Chinese customs and manners, for it really does appear as if Hongkong still belonged to China and was not part of a Colony of the Country and Empire of Great Britain, and the ear-splitting shrieks from both the crying women and the musicians—josses of all kinds and degrees help not to get rid of both—will not allow anyone a rest of ten minutes to compose his thoughts. 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when I say that some sort of measures must be put in practice to get rid of the cholera, other than the internal din Chinese are permitted to make in their chin-chin processions. I am not a reformer by any means, but really pity the well-intentioned, perhaps, but certainly deluded, people who are attempting to prevent things that have already taken place, or to stop all efforts to use remedial measures for existing evils because they cannot prevent them, yet in such cases as cholera and other like evils there is nothing comical in attempting to anticipate them by vaccination. And it is not comical in the exercise of a little physical force, to rouse up the onlookers on the side walks, on the part of the Sikh and other constables, and the application of the "move on" principle, that all who know the home customs have, no doubt, a very distinct recollection of, would be an inexpensive and forcible method of stopping the incubation of cholera microbes. But—

It isn't at all comical to read the effusions in the same paper which denied the existence of cholera in regard to other and very necessary schemes for the well-being and future benefit of the Colony. It is not to be wondered at though, that this should be the case when we find the funny contributor so hard up for matter that he has to give two columns (headed on ladies' bustles). It is a pity though, that the ladies of the Crown Colony should permit such irreverence in handling and uncovering of things feminine which insouciant humanity are by no means supposed to be ignorant of. They ought most emphatically to go with the sacrilegious wretch just what they do with their bustles, put him behind them and sit down on him. It would be very comical indeed, however, if they could carry out the analogy to a fuller extent, and do with him as with the bustle; change it into an improper, but as this is an utter impossibility, it will be best to let it alone, for it would only be time and labour wasted. But—

It isn't at all comical that the columns of the papers (omitting the *H. T.*) of course, should be taken up with dissertations on bustles, serial novels that can be bought whole for the cost of one issue of the paper, and other like matters, for this seems to be the nature of the animals. But it would be really comical, if, when all the time of the sibilers is taken up with listening to what "fragrant waters murmur" they could become acquainted with the wants and needs of a common humanity in a civilized sense. If the "fragrant waters" could only "murmur" in decent hand stand in a place that would meet the wants of the colony in this respect, or murmur a few more things that would benefit more than the "upper ten" they would murmur to some purpose. But as they would be doing this lose their fragrance, it must be taken for granted, that they will have to retain all their non-comical characteristics till they cease to murmur any more. The *Fragrant* nuisances show many, too many, serious matters of import, that it would be "too comical for anything" if the "Fragrant Waters" did give up with them to the extent. A visit to the Police Courts would show up some of them, perhaps. But—

It isn't at all comical that, with all the lawyers whose names are in the Hong list as residents, the Colony should have to depend upon the Civil list for administrators and adjudicators of the laws. There is indeed nothing at all comical in some of the decisions given lately in cases of notoriety. The extreme from the wisdom of Solomon to that of Sancho Panza, the latter through, and both these notable personages have had their decisions put to the blush in Hongkong. It may be possible, however, that there are not enough lawyers here to fill all the positions, and therefore laymen have to be utilized. But it does seem comical that this state of affairs should have come into existence in so short a time as has elapsed since it was reported that one of the fraternity had fairly starved to death for want of work. It will be a wonderful revelation to many, and that such rapid changes can take place in Hongkong. If such is to be the case in the future we may hope to see the full realization of the "Fraya Reclamation" scheme. But that and other matters must be left for fuller development on some future occasion by

UBIQUE.

#### ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

##### HORSES FOR ARMY IN HUPEI.

June 23rd.—The Governor-General Yü-lu reports that the General-in-Chief for Hupeh is desirous of sending an officer to procure two hundred horses in the country outside Kalgan. The horses are required for the use of the Hupeh army. The Memorialist has written to the Governor of the Chahar country and to the high authorities of the provinces along the line of route. He further prays that a permit may be issued allowing the animals to pass the customs station at Kalgan without being charged duty.—Approved by Rescript.

##### HUPEI. SUBSIDY TO PEKING FROM SALT REVENUE.

The subsidy required by the Central Government from the *likin* on salt in Hupeh is fixed this year at Tls. 100,000; and Tls. 50,000 are ordered to be paid from the same source for the use of the Imperial Household. The Hupeh government is now forwarding an instalment of Tls. 10,000 under each of these heads, the money being overland in bullion under the charge of an officer.

##### ADDITIONAL GRADUATES IN SZECHUAN.

The Viceroy of Szechuan represents that whenever the people of a province subscribe or contribute as much as Tls. 300,000 to any public undertaking or needs, at the capital or in the provinces, a rule has been made that one civil and one military graduate shall be added to the established number at the following provincial examinations. This regulation applies to miscellaneous collections, and is exclusive of large donations for which a special reward has been granted to the giver. Between the years 1870-1883 the people of Szechuan have subscribed or contributed in small sums to various funds a total of Tls. 600,678. The Memorialist therefore requests that at the next provincial examinations in Szechuan twenty additional graduateships may be granted to the civil and the same number to the military candidates.—Referred to the Board.

##### GIFT OF BOOKS TO THE KWO-TZU CHEN.

June 24th.—It has been reported to the Emperor that Lu Hsin-yuan, formerly Tatal of Kao-chow and Lien-chou in Kuan-lung, has presented 120 books, comprising 2,400 volumes to the Kuotai Chien, an Imperial Academy of Learning at Peking. In addition to these, which were old works contained in his library, he has given 300 new volumes which he has had printed himself. The Emperor is much pleased with this act of generosity on the part of a retired public servant, and directs that his two sons, one of whom is an ordinary licentiate (*ju shang*), and the other a salaried licentiate (*ju sheng*), be given the honorary rank of Director of Studies at the Imperial Academy.

##### SMUILLING BY A CHINESE OFFICER AT CANTON.

June 25th.—According to a Memorial presented by the Viceroy at Canton, an Acting Naval Lieutenant, Wang Te-chin by name, was placed in command of a native gun-boat and stationed at Chang Chou Island (a little west of Hongkong) to prevent smuggling. One day recently a steam vessel engaged in the same duty captured two boats near Chang Chou Island

with salt, and having on board of them a number of soldiers with their uniforms and military flags. The soldiers on being sent before a court for examination unanimously testified that they belonged to the crew of the above-mentioned native gun-boat, that the salt had been bought by the Lieutenant in Yau-mat, and after transhipping it he had sent them to take it to Chin-shing for sale. The Viceroy considers that this conduct of the Lieutenant is particularly reprehensible at the present moment, when grain prices are being taken to put the salt revenue into proper order; and he begs that the offender may be cashiered and deprived of the decoration of the feather which he wears.—Approved by Rescript.

##### REMITTANCES FROM CANTON.

In accordance with orders transmitted by the Board of Revenue, the Viceroy at Canton is forwarding to Peking Tls. 100,000 for the expenses of the Emperor's wedding, the said amount being taken from a sum of Tls. 200,000 due by Canton Government under the head of repayment of foreign moneys on account of the Western campaign (apparently one of Tso Tung-chang's loans from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank). He has also been ordered to furnish this year from the land tax and salt revenue a subsidy of Tls. 7,000,000 for the Central Government and Tls. 500,000 for the Imperial Household, under which heads he now forwards an instalment by bills on substantial native banks. The bills will be taken to Peking by an officer, who will cash them there and deliver the money to the proper parties.

##### INSURRECTION SUPPRESSED IN KUEI CHOW.

June 26th.—The Governor of Kuei-chow reports the suppression of an insurrection in the district of Cheng-shin Chou on the Szechuen frontier. It appears that a number of persons of bad character assembled together in the above-mentioned district, fortified a camp and put up their flags, in open defiance of the law. The outbreak having been reported, a body of regular troops and local militia were despatched to the spot to restore order. The rebels, who had occupied a strong position in the mountains, opened fire on the approach of the troops. They were dislodged by a spirited attack, thirty of them being slain in the assault and twenty more in their flight, and among the number of those killed were several of their leaders. Peace and tranquillity were thus re-established. But the principal chief and one of his lieutenants had escaped, and it was absolutely necessary that they should be secured. Therefore, as the local Magistrate was known to be somewhat wanting in energy he was made to exchange posts with another officer, and the latter soon reported the capture of the two rebels. The rebels were taken from the prison, and it was thought better not to send the prisoners in for trial, lest some accident should happen by the way. A special officer was therefore despatched to superintend proceedings on the spot, and the men's guilt having been clearly demonstrated, they were punished by immediate decapitation. In conclusion the Memorialist begs to be allowed to recommend for promotion a limited number of officers who have distinguished themselves in connection with the affair.—Approved.

##### MURDER OF A MOTHER AND SON.

In the neighbourhood of Shen Chou in Chihli, there were two distant cousins named Sung Shuan-chu and Sung Shu-yun. The former was married, but the latter had neither wife or home, and therefore went to live in his cousin's house, giving in return his labour and the produce of two *mu* of land that he owned. One day last winter, when Sung Shuan-chu was gone away in search of temporary employment, the lodger objected to the bad quality of the food Mrs. Sung gave him, and said that he would not work unless he was properly fed. Mrs. Sung replied by abusing him for greediness and laziness, and wanted to turn him out of the house. One night soon afterwards, the lodger came back from a wine-shop where he had been drinking; the woman again met him with abuse and reproaches, and told him to take his things and clear out that very night. Losing his temper on account of her violent language he took a hoe and knocked her down; and, as she continued to revile him, his anger completely overmastered him, and he attacked her again and killed her outright. Her son, who was asleep when the quarrel commenced, was awakened by the noise, and caught hold of the mah and would not let go. The latter, in order to free himself, struck the boy with the hoe and injured him, so that he died some time afterwards. For these two murders, the Viceroy Li Hung-chang has sentenced the criminal to be branded on the cheek, and decapitated without delay.—Referred to the Board of Punishments.

##### CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM HUPEI FOR CHIHILI.

June 27th.—Two years ago, when great distress was caused by widely spread floods in the province of Chihli, the Viceroy Li Hung-chang presented a Memorial asking that rewards might be conferred on the officials of other provinces who should exert themselves in collecting subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers. The Viceroy now reports that he has received from the Province of Hupeh no less than Tls. 34,000, a magnificent gift, which has preserved from starvation a large number of unfortunate people, and which is all the more creditable to the donors because they had not long before contributed to the famine fund for Shantung and the adjacent regions. He begs that the Board of Civil Office may be directed to choose some substantial mark of the Emperor's approbation, to be conferred on the Grand Treasurer of Hupeh, and he proposes rewards for the Prefect of Wuchang and certain other officials whom he names.—Approved.

##### TITLES AND TABLETS FOR TWO TEMPLES IN SHANTUNG.

The Governor of Shantung represents that in Chih-mo Hsien there is a temple in honour of the Dragon Spirit, which has always been a shrine of wonderful virtue. In 1876, during a time of drought, a bronze tablet was brought from the temple to the provincial capital, and its arrival was followed by showers of fertilizing rain. Last summer again there was a drought, in both Chih-mo Hsien and Lai-chou Fu. An official procession visited the temple and carried the tablet from it first to the one place and then to the other, and in each case rain fell and the corn grew and ripened for the harvest. Also, in Chang-ching Hsien there is a temple of the Five Dragon Spirits, to which the Magistrate repaired last summer when the country was suffering from dryness, and in immediate response to his earnest prayer, the earth was gladdened by fertilising showers. In each of these cases the people of the district unanimously pray that the Emperor will confer on their temple an honorific title and bestow on it a tablet as an Imperial gift.

##### APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF A TEMPLE IN CHEKIANG.

June 28th.—The Governor of Chekiang makes an application on behalf of the temple of the City Walls in the town of Chin-hua. During the reign of the Emperor Hsien Feng, in the year 1861, the country was overrun by the long-haired rebels, and the people were reduced to sore distress. Silently they prayed for help, till in the year 1863 the Imperial army advanced to their rescue. Every night the anxious refugees within the walls saw faintly displayed in the vacant expanse of the north-west sky a supernatural appearance of lamps and flags, which continued many days without

vanishing. By the protection of the god which was thus manifested to them, they were freed from the enemy, and the remembrance of their preservation still dwells in the hearts of the grateful people. This district of Chin-hua is a tract of poor land lying along the course of a mountain stream, liable to be either parched or flooded whenever the rainfall be in any degree either scanty or excessive. On such occasions the officials and people proceed together to the temple of the god, who never fails to respond to their prayers. At the beginning of last summer there was a long rainless period. The dry earth cracked, and a procession to the temple was organised, and the same night the needed showers began to fall. The corn was planted, the harvest assured, and the gratitude of the people knew no bounds. In accordance with the desire expressed by them, the Governor prays the Emperor to grant the temple a title of honour together with a tablet bearing an inscription.—Decree issued separately.

#### THE MODERN WOMAN.

The close observer of modern manners and the stern censor of the deplorable conduct of the average society woman of to-day will be prepared by this time to view her as the perpetrator of any extravagance, the heroine of any scandal, the pioneer of any social movement that is opposed to refinement, distinguished from good breeding, and divorced from what was once known as good taste. When women of all ages and of every feeling, push and scramble for the lowest place in the crowd, or the most notorious criminal, preferably of their own sex; when, without a blush or tremor, they raise their open eyes to gaze on the lewd contentment of men and women tumbling at the moment of the sentence of death; when women, young and old, apparently innocent and ostentatiously respectable, are familiar with the every gross detail of the most sordid and shameful life, and their fine feathers in propriety position; when counsel and judges are to their disgust disavowing subjects and sipping dials that make decent men almost sick with shame; when we hear of young girls listening to questionable anecdotes from depraved men, and familiar with crime so revolting and human faculties so appalling that, not twenty years ago, they were held to be inhumanity; even in the society of the lowest men; when we have in evidence the existence of abominable looking-glasses, which reflect the faces of all ages assembled to familiarise themselves with the grossest form of French literature, translated and in the original, and to cast an admiring gaze on "a few classical figures," which the femininity practised at middle-class dances nowadays and in so-called respectable society are said to trustworthily evidence to be so shameless as to this last the most depraved men; when daughters discuss their mothers' faults, and in their wink at their daughters' licentiousness, the question naturally arises how far the advance of high civilization, or culture, or whatever it may be called, differs from the degrading times when women feasted on the revolting scenes in the Roman arena, and when the soft and caressing success of hyper-sensitive sensuality received its crack of doom in the destruction of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

A scene the other night in the House of Commons will well illustrate the state of things at which we have arrived by slow and certain degrees, will acquit the regretful pessimist of undue exaggeration, and it may be hoped, will fill with shame the possessors of that once chivalrously honoured and honourable name of woman. There was to be a debate on a particularly revolting subject, a debate absolutely necessary in the interest of the community at large, and of the Queen's subjects in India; a subject that men must face, and that women should shun; the kind of topic that a judge who respected his position would elect to try in camera. The Speaker of the House of Commons, informed of the facts, with excellent courtesy and good taste (being unable to order a debate with closed doors), instructed the attendants to warn all ladies who presented themselves for admission to the Gallery, that a subject was to be discussed of so delicate a nature that it might accidentally annoy and shock those who were not prepared for an evening necessarily occupied with revolting details. (Not a tenth part of the women who presented themselves took any notice of the Speaker's kindly warning. They treated it with flouting insolence and with impudent curiosity, fishing past the attendants they came to their seats, and the most of the women amongst them seemed only to regret the existence of the golden grille that partly concealed their shameless features and their greedy eyes. But this was not all. One would have thought that, although their morbid conscientiousness, or their addition to the tenets of the shrieking sisterhood, or whatever cause it was, placed their presence before the assembled legislators, it would at least have suggested that they should hear all this nastiness in silence, and hesitate in allowing their heads to be put on parade. Not a bit of it! At the conclusion of one of the speeches inderable from such an occasion, these nasty-minded women actually, in violation of all rules of the House, began applauding with their fans on the grating in front of them—a proceeding so grossly irregular and indecent as to compel a stern cry of "Order! Order!" from the Speaker, and a significant hand-wave from the Leader of the House, as if to show that the most careless men present were guilty of such an indignity, and that it was not women who were to prove their contempt for common decency, and ostentatiously to boast their lower proclivities.

The modern treatment of woman by man is sometimes wondered at. We are told that the old days courtesy and chivalry are dead. The dignity of age, the beauty of maturity, the innocence of youth, are alike ignored; but it is sometimes forgotten in the case of the modern woman how age has been robbed of its dignity; how maturity causes its beauty to be soiled with powder and paint; and how youth, instead of innocence the very instant it comes in contact with the world of fashion. It is urged that men are selfish and dissolute, and that they care no more for women's society; but men's censors forget to state that woman, the good woman, the pure woman, the noble woman has ceased to exercise her influence over man, has abandoned her sway, has ceased to rule, and consented to be led; has given up her dignified, quietly, attribute, and elected to be dragged after the car of pleasure, and has youth, instead of innocence the very instant it comes in contact with the world of fashion. 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